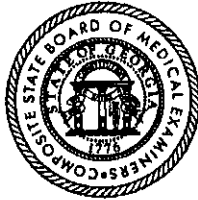


COMPOSITE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LaSharn Hughes, MBA

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
Jim H. McNatt, MD

2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 36th Floor • Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • Tel: 404.656.3913 • <http://www.medicalboard.georgia.gov>
E-Mail: medbd@dch.ga.gov

April 15, 2006

Dear Orthotist and/or Prosthetist:

In December 2005, the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners (CSBME) advised all orthotists and prosthetists currently practicing in the state of Georgia, that they would be required to obtain licensure effective July 1, 2006, but no later than July 1, 2007.

Attached are the application instructions and forms to complete for licensure in Georgia. Two types of licenses will be available to orthotists and prosthetists wishing to practice in this State. Please read the information below to determine which license you will need to apply for.

A. **TEMPORARY LICENSURE.**

This license **only applies** to individuals who have worked in this State for a minimum of the **past seven (7) years** in a prosthetic/orthotic facility as an Orthotist or Prosthetist and are **not** already certified by ABC/BOC. If you fall into this category, please complete **Application Packet A no later than August 30, 2006**. Be advised that a temporary license issued to a person, pursuant to and in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-34-198(c) shall be valid only through **June 30, 2007 and shall not be renewed** without compliance with requirements of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-195.

B. **LICENSURE FOR APPLICANTS WHO ARE CERTIFIED AS AN ORTHOTIST OR PROSTHETIST.**

This license **only applies** to individuals who are certified as an orthotist, prosthetist or prosthetist orthotist by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc., (ABC) **and/or** the Board of Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification (BOC), or holding similar certifications from other accrediting bodies with equivalent educational requirements and currently practicing orthotics and prosthetics in this State. If you fall into this category, please complete **Application Packet B no later than July 1, 2007**.

C. **After July 1, 2007 individuals who have not obtained licensure through Item A or B above, must fulfill the following requirements:**

- A. Possess a baccalaureate degree from a college or university and completion of a program in prosthetics or orthotics that meets or exceeds the requirements, including clinical practice, of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs (CAAHEP) and complete a clinical residency in orthotics and/or prosthetics that meets or exceeds the standards and requirements for residencies of the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education;
- or
- B. Possess an associate's degree from a college or university with successfully completed courses in human anatomy, physiology, physics, chemistry and biology and have completed at least five (5) years of work experience in the discipline for which the license is sought, under the supervision of a practitioner licensed or certified in such discipline by an agency accredited by the National Commission for Certifying agencies;

- C. Successfully complete the examination(s) given by ABC or its successor for certification in the discipline for which the license is sought.

Application materials for Item C will be available at a later date.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING ASSISTANTS AND TECHNICIANS

Assistants

- A. No person shall work as an *assistant* to an orthotist, prosthetist or prosthetist orthotist and provide patient care services or fabrication of an orthoses or prostheses, unless he or she is **doing the work under the supervision of a licensed orthotist, prosthetist or prosthetist orthotist.**

Technicians

- B. No person shall work as a *technician* unless the work is performed under the direction of a person licensed under this article. **Said direction shall not require direct supervision.**

The Board is still in the process of finalizing the Rules for Orthotics and Prosthetics. Please check our website after May 15, 2006 for a copy of the Rules.

If you require additional information, please contact Teri Raven, Applications Specialist at 404-463-2292 or via e-mail at traven@dch.ga.gov.

On behalf of the Board, we thank you in advance for applying for licensure as an Orthotist/Prosthetist to serve the citizens of Georgia.

Sincerely,



LaSharn Hughes, Executive Director

Enclosures: **Attachment A**
 Attachment B

Temporary Licensure Application Instructions and Forms
Licensure Application Instructions and Forms